

SECRET

SUBJECT: Potential Informant For CE Activity:

NAME : KOPP, Walter
DOB : 21 March, 1913, Alsenz, Pfalz
ADDRESS : Bittenwiesen b. Augsburg
OCCUPATION : Engineer, former professional soldier
PROJECT : KIBITZ stay behind
POSITION IN PROJECT: Chief Agent
CLEARANCE STATUS : cleared MGK-W-12241

SHORT BIOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND: Subject was educated nine years at gymnasium, and started study of science at the University of Munich. He then in 1932 went into the service with the engineers. He was commissioned in 1933 as a Faehnrich, and steadily advanced in a long military career in various fields and numerous theaters, far too long to enumerate here. Most important was his service with the Pioneers on the Eastern front. He ended up as a Colonel and turned himself over to the Americans, released in 1945. Obligated to follow civilian pursuits, he undertook the management of his family businesses, highly successful, which brings him a large independent income. In May 1950 he wrote a letter to then High Commissioner McCloy, and stated that he and a group of his friends were concerned over what might happen in case a Russian invasion and wished to place themselves at the disposal of the Americans. He was interrogated by one of our case officers and since has built a large network of potential stay-behind agents which has since been abandoned by orders from home.

MOTIVATION AND PERSONALITY:

a. **Motivation:** Unquestionably his militant anti-Communism, pro-Western orientation, and desire to see Germany rid of the Russians. Of the Western powers he likes the U.S. best. He is nationalistic, but supports NATO and the European Army. His experiences in the East have led him to believe that Germany must be spared from Russian domination and saved for the West.

b. **Personality:** Forceful, dynamic, and energetic. He is a tireless worker and a strong leader. Inclined to rashness, at times, he is held in check by his adjutant and co-worker. Is learned and up-to-date on world affairs, and has a good mind. He is a typical German type and typical professional soldier type, having their faults and virtues.

ASSOCIATION WITH OTHER AGENTS: As chief agent he recruited and controlled a large chain of agents and prospects. He was known to have tremendous influence over his agents and was highly respected by them.

SECURITY EVALUATION AND COMMENTS: The main fault with his operation was that it was not well compartmented. Subject has had a difficult time learning a few tricks of the trade and security measures, but through constant lectures, etc. has improved tremendously. Another fault was that he considers his agents all "good, trustworthy Germans," and hence probably trusted them too much. As it had turned out, this is largely true, but he should never take it for granted. We have been aware of these faults for some time, however, and corrective measures have been taken.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT INFORMATION

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
(2)(A) Privacy ☐
(2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒
(2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

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REASONS FOR TERMINATION WITH US: Subject is said to be difficult to control. Subject considered himself a "free co-worker" ~~XXXX~~ and not merely an "agent". However, subject was both honest and trustworthy and could very well be capable of obtaining many leads and much information pertaining to counter-intelligence.

Subject has submitted the following information and claims to be able to give more details if requested:

a. Youth groups of the SPD and the unions are in many cases strongly leftist. They have arms in Alzey. There is talk among them that they will cooperate actively with the East after the Americans leave. Eastern agents are definitely working here.

b. In view of the fact that since 1945 police officials have been recruited not only from former conservative but also from anti-nazi circles, it could be observed that in many cases officials of lower rank are strongly oriented towards the left. A confidant reported for instance that the police chief of Alzey though officially an SPD man is in fact close to the KPD. The same circles comment openly on the unreliability of the police in regard to secrecy, even in matters concerning the former State Security Service. This should be food for thought/.

c. One encounters these days--on the doves of the palatinate, among the gypsies and ambulant workers--vagabonds of a type so far unknown. There is open talk about employers, financiers, information and plans. In many cases reporter and his associates have detected among the small type foreigners. among certain womenfolk, and even among the so-called big-shot officers, traces of a definite organization that gathers information here and reports it.

This has been so obvious in many cases that people have asked themselves the following question: "could it be possible that the Americans really want the East to get all this information? Unless they did, they would certainly undertake counter measures."

d.. Do you want me to go into the matter and prepare a plan for counter-espionage that might bring all sorts of connections into the open?

Subject says that for almost 5 months he has been in constant touch with all strata of the population in the Palatinate, the Hunsrück, Rhein-Hesse and the area of Frankfurt. He believes that his adaptability to the different regions and people has enabled him to get an insight into matters that escape the average observer.

We would be very interested to know if you could use an informant of this type. It is our opinion that subject would submit written reports to you which could expose Communist activity. It is also believed that subject would not request financial obligations or salary but would merely ask for expenses if there should be any involved. We could arrange necessary introduction or rendezvous at your request.

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Walter KOPP (KIBITZ-15) (CAPITATION-100) M

Born 21 March 1913, Alsens, Pfalz
Lives in Buttenwiesen bei Augsburg;
Wehrmacht 1932-1945 when turned himself in as American PW; released Jun 45;
Rank of Colonel, 1 Jan 45

(Not to be confused with Walter KOPPE. b. 24 May 1905. Gross Bantzen, Kresl
Teltow; EE/PP/G agent in project C, CO - []
Traces on this Walter turned up by PPG:
MGKA 11296: KOPPE Walter born 21 June 1891, Berlin
Field Investigation: same: principal KPD secretary, Berlin

Polygraph on KIBITZ-15 20 Jan 53
Netative traces POB, 6 Nov 52

WASH 8890, OUT 59911, 5 Jul 50: No probable traces; Dept of the Army captured
(in KIBITZ-15 file) Documents noted ~~MMY~~ (1) professional political
officer b. 1911, Lt. 1935, missing in action
as Col. 1944 (2) b. 1913, commissioned in engineers
1935, last rank Major

TRACES: 1 April 1953

32-6-2-2662
(MGKA 22348) in file (of no security value)

32-6-2-6910
(MGKW-11977)
T/S CIA 72452 in EE/G file (name mentioned in connection with someone
else

201-20993 *Req. for trace; POB reply - not id.*

100-2-28-1417
Encl. 8 (I&S check) (no info of invest. value or security interest)

32-6-1-1944
(MGKA 21761) (of no security value) *in file*

32-6-1-8079
Encl.
MGFA 6481 (of no security value) *in file*

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